



Empower Eau Claire:

Participatory Budgeting

Steering Committee Workshop #9 Notes

Where: Virtual Workshop

When: Wednesday, February 23, 2022, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Attendance: Susan Wolfgram, Karen Petersin, Pakou Thao, Kenny Tubwell, Jacksen Wolff, Mai Xiong (SC members); Scott Allen, Taylor Graybehl, Billie Hufford, Ned Noel, and Carrie Riepl (City Staff). Karen Mumford and Maddie Loeffler (UWEC)

Agenda:

1) Review Schedule

The committee reviewed the schedule for the program which leads up to the vote.

2) Project Advocates & Idea Collection Committees Updates

General progress updates on proposal ideas were shared.

3) Technical Staff Team

Staff reported that a new internal technical team has been set up to review the proposed projects. This team will help coordinate on future contracts for the winning projects. The team will work together on voting tasks and communication tasks.

4) Voting Plan Approval/ To dos

A voting plan was presented to the committee. The vote period will cover April 16th - May 13th. The grand event will be held at the senior center on May 7th. The library will have ongoing voting. There will be several other outreach activities planned for Latino and Hmong populations along with unhoused and inmates. Eau Claire school district and

college students will have opportunities. The ranking style voting platform from Stanford University will be used. Networking, names and other resources were shared by the committee for follow-up.

Ms. Xiong moved to approve the voting plan. Seconded by Mr. Jacksen and the motion carried.

5) Consider Amending Rulebook for Eliminating Voter IDs

The committee discussed changing the rulebook so voters would not need to present IDs. Staff had learned from other communities that they did not require ID forms since it created too much of a barrier. For example, the unhoused having to present an agency letter that they are unhoused. The online ballot can simply ask voters if they meet the eligibility criteria and have a box checked. Further, all projects will benefit the community being located inside the city so that eases outside concerns.

Ms. Wolfgram moved to approve the amendment to the rulebook to use an “on-your-honor” system. Seconded by Mr. Jacksen and the motion carried.

6) Next Steps

Staff will continue to work with the three project committees to refine ideas and make a final list. This recommended project list will be presented to the Steering Committee on April 6th to set the voter ballot.